

C.S.

INDUSTRIES.

(Miscellaneous)

No.

121/31.

193 1.

AGR/AJG/1 # 6

Estate L. Williams.

SUBJECT.

193 1.

25th April.

Previous Paper.

PROPOSED FORMATION OF A COMPANY TO CONDUCT
FREEZING OPERATIONS IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

143/29

MINUTES.

Letter from the Manager, Est. L. Williams of 25/4/31.

off.

Submitted.

*C.D.
27/4/31.*

Off. Sec.

Please act. r. at say

that no matter is receiving consideration.

Added that it is hoped to address a

further communication to him at an early date.

Subsequent Paper.

2. Then please

off. for his use

the number of sheep available
to feed such a freezer, if established.

3. Financially, government participation
on the various systems is of course
out of the question.

Wm. S.

28/4/31.

Letter to Estate Louis Williams. 28/4/31.

5.

Veterinary office:

For your remarks please.

A. S. J. C. S.
28/4/31.

C.S.O. No. 121/31

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 2.

Item. Cat. Day.

I Surplus stock in the Islands were mostly culls for age and broken members. There are no surplus carcass stock.

II.

Sheep disposed of 1949-50.
51,150.

Deducting.

No. sent for breeding.	4,052.
Exported. (S. Georgia)	4,179.
Wetland	10,278.
50% killed for skins.	5,000.
	<u>25,000.</u>

Leaving - wetland 26,000, the bulk of which would be poor carcass animals.

Johnston, 29. 4. 51.

Freezing plant in store for meat and vegetables by it is a commercial proposition. John

YK.

Submitted.

A. J. S.
30/4/51.

My. Sat

Hon. Members of Ex. Co.
for their early consideration and
advice, please.

Yours

30. 4. 31.

EARLY.

Hon. Treasurer
Hon. P. M. J. M.

For your early consideration
and advice please.

W. J. C. S.
1/5/31.

Hon. Col. Sec.

I concur with para: 3 of His
Excellency's minute of the 28th April.

2. No doubt a freezing plant
would be of benefit to Farmers,
but such a scheme has been
brought forward before and
abandoned owing to lack of
support by the I. S. C. and Farmers.

Wm. George Halliday

W. G. H.
1. 4. 31.

C.S.O. No. 121/31.

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 3....

Hon Col. Secy.

I concur with H.E's Para 3.
of 20th April.

I am of the opinion that such
a proposition for many good &
sufficient reasons would not
be a success in this Colony.

J. Inner Moor.
2-4-31.

J.E.

Submitted.

C. P. J.
2/5/31.

Off 4 Sub.

Letter to Range, Est. L. O.,

for deposit, please.

2. The Tocar. at the

P.O. Thereafter to see.

3. The P.O. in

connection the other

interest certain facts &
 restricted relative to the present
 in output of the freemen -
 Petaynic. I should be
 probable if he will record here
 briefly what he knows of the
 state of the trade in that
 country.

Yours

3.5.31.

Letter to Estate Louis Williams. 4/5/31.

Hon. Treasurer.
 Hon. P. W. O.

MCH
 4.5.31.

To see.

J. G. P. O.
 4.5.31.

MEAT AND FISH

LONDON, March 10.—SMITHFIELD MEAT (official report).—Supplies amounted to 1,268 tons, made up of 222 tons British and Irish produce, and 1,046 tons of imported. Imports formed 82.5 per cent. Prices ruled as follows:—

BEER, per 8lb.—English, long shins, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 4d.; hindqrs., forerib. and flank (Kosher), 5s. 2d. to 5s. 6d.; Irish, long shins (Birkenhead killed), 4s. 8d. to 5s.; Argentine, hindqrs., chilled, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.; foreqrs., chilled, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d.; Uruguayan, hindqrs., chilled, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; foreqrs., chilled, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d.; Brazilian, hindqrs., chilled, 3s. to 3s. 4d.; foreqrs., chilled, 1s. 11d. to 2s.; Australian, hindqrs., frozen, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 4d.; crops, frozen, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d.

MUTTON, per 8lb.—Scotch, 6s. 4d. to 7s.; legs, 6s. 8d. to 8s.; English, 6s. to 7s.; legs, 6s. 8d. to 7s. 8d.; ewes, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; New Zealand, wethers, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 2d.; ewes, 1s. 10d. to 2s. 4d.; Argentine, wethers, 1s. 10d. to 2s. 4d.; ewes, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d.

PORK, per 8lb.—English (under 10st.), 6s. 8d. to 7s. 4d.; 10st. to 15st., 6s. to 6s. 8d.; 15st. to 20st., 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d.; New Zealand, 3s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.; Argentine, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 8d.; Australian, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; sows, 3s. 6d. to 2s. 10d.

LAMB, per 8lb.—English, 9s. 4d. to 11s. 4d.; New Zealand, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; Australian, 3s. to 3s. 8d.; Argentine, 2s. 8d. to 3s. 4d.

VEAL, per 8lb.—English, fat, 6s. 8d. to 8s.; specials, 8s. 8d. to 9s. 4d.; bobbies, 4s. to 5s.

POULTRY, GAME, &c.—Surrey chickens, per lb., 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d.; coarce, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d.; country, medium, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.; large, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.; coarce, 10d. to 1s. 1d.; Irish, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.; lean, 1s. to 1s. 2d.; Belgian, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.; Dutch, yellow, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d.; white, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 7d.; Russian, 11d. to 1s. 1d.; Hungarian, 11d. to 1s. 1d.; American, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.; hens, English, old, 9d. to 10d.; ducklings, country, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.; rabbits, wild, 5½d. to 6½d.; turkeys, Hungarian, 11d. to 1s.

BILLINGSWATE FISH.—Supplies totalled 564 tons. Plaice, cod, and haddock were in fair request, but trading was quiet for other varieties. Quotations:—Salmon, English, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 10d.; Scotch, 2s. 10d. to 3s.; Irish, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 9d.; soles, 1s. 4d. to 2s.; slips, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 9d.; whitebait, 1s. to 1s. 3d.; mullet, 1s. 6d.; lobsters, 4s. to 5s.; crabs, 1s.; small prawns, 1s. to 8s. per lb. Dory, 6s. to 7s.; turbot, 10s. to 13s.; brill, 9s. to 11s.; lemon soles, 10s. to 16s.; halibut, 14s. to 16s.; negrims, 4s. to 7s.; live cod, 3s. to 5s.; dead cod, 2s. to 3s.; plaice, 10s. to 12s.; haddock, 6s. to 8s.; Iceland haddock, 2s. 6d. to 5s.; dry haddock, 10s. 6d. to 13s. 5d.; mackerel, 10s.; whiting, 2s. to 6s.; gurnet, 3s. to 4s.; bream, 7s. to 8s.; skate, 4s. to 6s.; roker, 6s. to 7s. 6d.; hake, 9s. to 12s.; conger eels, 2s. to 4s. per stone. Live eels, 27s. to 37s.; dead eels, 24s. to 28s. per draught. Bloaters, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; kippers, 4s. to 5s. 6d.; red herrings, 4s. to 6s. 6d.; pillets (7lb.), 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per box. Oysters.—Whitstable native, 24s.; Portuguese, 7s. to 8s.; American blue point, 6s. to 10s. 6d.; Pyefleet, 42s. to 65s.; Dutch, 6s. to 26s.; Dutch relaid, 10s. to 14s. per 100.

GRIMSBY, March 10.—FISH.—A good supply was landed from 39 North Sea, seven Iceland, and four Faroe Islands trawlers, and one liner. Demand was fair. Plaice, 10s. 6d.; lemon soles, 15s.; frozen halibut, 8s. to 12s.; cod, 1s. 3d.; skate, 8s. to 9s.; small haddocks, 4s.; kit haddocks, 8s.; gibbed haddocks, 9s.; dabs, 8s. to 10s.; codlings, 3s. to 4s. per stone. Soles, 2s.; turbot, 9d. to 1s. 1d.; brill, 1s. per lb.

EGGS

GLORIOUS SOUTH DEVON.

An Excellent Investment. In Perfect Condition.
In a delightful sheltered position on the Banks of the
River Dart at its Estuary, with magnificent and un-
interrupted views.

AN OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE

Entirely modernized regardless of cost.

Reception hall, lounge and dining room, three bed rooms,
two with private bath rooms and toilets; one bed room
with tower smoke room and open sleeping porch and
private bath room and toilet.

Telephone in each bed room. Hot and cold running water.

Good Cellars.

Garage for two Cars. Chauffeur's Living Room.
Electric light, gas, Frigidaire, telephone, main water and
drainage, central heating.

THE GARDENS which are a very great feature are
laid out in terraces by Messrs. Vetch of Exeter.

Italian Studio. Summerhouse. Tower House.

Conservatories, &c.

Private Landing Stage with Deep Anchorage.

PRICE FREEHOLD

£4,000

(Terms to suit appreciative purchaser.)

N.B.—This Property is a unique proposition and would
appeal especially to yachtsmen or those of artistic
temperament.

View by appointment only. Address: Owner, The Turrets,
Dartmouth. At present occupied, but purchaser can have
immediate possession.

**GILMERE, SOUTH ASCOT, BERKS.—SMALL
FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.** de-
lightful situation: 11 bed, three bath, three re-
ception rooms; central heating, &c.; garage and
stabling, flat over; about eight Acres grounds;
Hard tennis court, &c. Auction to-morrow, Thurs-
day.—WILLIAM WILLETT, Ltd., Sloane-square,
S.W.1. (Sloane 8141.)

HAMPSHIRE (within easy distance of Reading and
Basingstoke, 300ft. above sea level).—To be LET, unfurnished
RENT
£150 P.A. delightful RESIDENCE: six bed
and dressing rooms, bath room
FIVE ACRES. (hot and cold), three reception
COTTAGE. garage; electric light, co.'s
water. (4002.)

BUCKLAND and SONS, 154, Friar-street, Reading.

ISLE OF WIGHT.—Delightful SMALL COUNTRY
HOUSE; not isolated; perfect repair; nice garden
THREE ACRES. £1,950.—BM/BVJB, London, W.C.1

BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS.

KENT and SUSSEX BORDERS, Hawkhurst (near).—
Choice AGRICULTURAL ESTATE, 210 ACRES
"EAGLESDEN." BENENDEN." old-world RESI-
DENCE; six bed, bath (hot and cold), two large recep-
tion; excellent farmery, five cottages. AUCTION 26th
March, or privately.—GEERING and COLYER
Hawkhurst, Kent.

BY ORDER OF TRUSTEES.

KENT, GOUDHURST, in this delightful village.—
Picturesque old-fashioned RESIDENCE: six bed
bath, two large reception; co.'s electric light and water
IMMEDIATE POSSESSION. Also the ADJOINING
PREMISES, producing £90 per annum. WEST HOUSE
and BANK HOUSE. AUCTION 27th March, or
privately.—GEERING and COLYER, Hawkhurst, Kent.

MOOR PARK

Is really unspoiled country with

GUARANTEED PROTECTED

DEVELOPMENT.

Hon. Col. Secy.

I have been told that the large freezer at Punta Sura which works usually 3 to 4 months per season, & freezes on an average 300,000 sheep mostly lambs only worked for one month this year. I am of the opinion my source of information is reliable.

J. Inner Moid.
5/4/31.

Yks.

Submitted.

C.J.J.
5/5/31

bf 5. 6. 31.

1/2 5. 5. 31

7. Letter to Hon. L. W. H. Young. 14th May, 1931.
8. Letter to Hon. G. J. Feltow. 14th May, 1931.

bf 5/6/31.
C.J.J. 14/5/31.

Letter from Manager, J. L. Coy, 22/5/31. 9-10.

J/LC. Submitted.

C. L. J.
22/5/31.

Off H. Sent.

Letter is reply to mls 10-9

herewith, please.

2. Your Officer to see 1

shall be glad if he could take

the steps necessary to ^{verify} ~~ascertain~~

as nearly as possible the supply of

—
i.e. by enquiry of
the farmers who
to be interested.
suitable sheep stock could be ^{forthcoming} ~~available~~
in present conditions to feed such

—
26.5.31. ^{and} a freezing works, if established, *

3 Hereafter please btp. This paper

12.6.31

and
26.5.31.

11. Letter to Hon. J. W. H. Young. 27th May, 1931.

Veterinary office.

To see for necessary action
please.

A. J. J.
oicpso.
27/5/31.

Hon. Col. Secy.

I will submit
an estimate of the number
of sheep available for freezing
after inquiring of the farmer
in attendance.

J. H. M. J.
28. 5. 31.

b.f. 12/6/31.
A. J. J. 30/5/31.

- 12-13. Letter from the Falkland Islands Company, Ltd. 12/6/31.

Y/H.

Submitted.

A. J. J.
13/6/31.

Off. Sec.

Please ack. r. of recd 13

with Banks at the refer to Vol.

Off. with an enquiry as to whether

he is yet in a position to

furnish the information, or part of it,

asked for by my minute of 26.5.31.

Yours

13.6.31.

Letter to Falkland Islands Co., 15th June, 1931. 14.

Veterinary Officer

Referred to you.

C. H. G.
recd. 15/6/31

Item Cal. Secy.

The following are the figures, on carrying of monies.

I. East Island.

Douglas Station.	1000	} 9000.
Port Louis.	500.	
Remedy Island.	1000.	
San Carlos.	1000.	
F. I. C.	5000.	
Salvador	500	

- (a) Port San Carlos and Rincon Grande, supply stores with mutton, both have steady market for all surplus.

II. West Island.

Pebble.	1000.	} 3500
Hill Cove.	2000.	
Sounders	500.	

- (b) Hill Cove have steady market for surplus stock to Port Stephens.

- (c) Port Howard surplus stock is shipped to South Georgia.

- (d) Labull has an opportunity this evening of discussing with Mr. Huston, of Chertner, who is a Director of Roche Bros; this matter, with special reference to Roche Bros. and Strickman, Bros.

- (e) The estimate by 2000 from Hill Cove seems high when compared with Pebble.

J. Huston

4. 26. 6. 31.

16. 6. 31.

Hon. Col. Secy. The. Lupton estimated
surplus stock of Charles at 1000,
and suggested 1,250 as a likely figure
for the two Bay stations, Shikony & Pache
combined. Mr. Lupton estimated 7-8,000
as a figure for the west Islands, if
the South Georgia trade ceases.

J. Hunter.
17. 6. 31.

J/K

Submitted for information.

C.S.S.
17/6/31

b.f.

26. 6. 31.

17. 6. 31.

y. R. y. R. may wish to peruse

Rece N.P.P.

Seas
J/K

17. 6. 31.
23. 6. 31.

C.S.O. No. 121/31

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 7

How. Treasurer.

How. P. M. O.

MCH 24.6.31.

J.M. 25.6.31

Circulated for consideration
at next meeting of Executive
Council on Monday, 29th
June 1931.

A. J. Stewart.
Clerk, Executive Council,
24 June 1931.

Y. L.

Draft letter submitted.

2. If Y. L. approves, I will

circulate to Hon. Members of

Ex. Co. for any observations thereon

Shall very respectfully remain

Serv.

W. L.

2.7.31.

I agree with draft
letter. I think it an
effective answer to the
proposal submitted.
I shall await the
reply with interest hoping
that out of the discussion &
consideration of the matter
the industry will eventually
go on 2.7.31

Mr. Treas.
Mr. P. D. O.

circulated accordingly, please.

Hon. Col. Sec.

I concur with the terms
of the draft letter.

Mr. Craigie Kalthett

Treas.

3. 7. 31.

Hon. Col. Sec.

I agree, please.

6. 7. 31

Extract from Minutes of Meeting of
Executive Council held on the 29th June, 1931.

After discussion the Council agreed that the project as submitted was not practicable and that a detailed reply should be addressed to the Estate Louis Williams to this effect but couched in such terms as to leave the matter open for further correspondence and discussion.

C. J. Stewart

Clerk of the Executive Council.

7th July, 1931.

C.C. Please type letter

to go to Manager, E.L.O.

18. 7. 7. 31.

Letter to the Manager, Estate Louis Williams 7/7/31. 15-18.

P. A. J. 2
8. 7. 31.

ESTATE LOUIS WILLIAMS

PORT STANLEY

FALKLAND ISLANDS

Stanley, 25th April 1931.

Sir,

Given the present world prices ruling for wool, and the fact that very little hope can be entertained for a rise in the near future to such a figure as will put the local sheep-farming industry (which is the only industry in the Colony) on a substantial profit-making basis again, we are of the opinion that some concerted action should be taken to capitalise the value of surplus stock, which for the present is more or less wasted every year.

Up to the present the owners of farms alone have borne the brunt of the present situation, as, so far, very few men have been dismissed from the farms in order to curb working costs.

However, it is not to be expected that this satisfactory state of affairs of the working people can be continued indefinitely, and unless wool prices rise sharply, by this time next year it is more than probable that quite a considerable number of farm hands may be deprived of employment, as farm owners and farm Managers will be forced to practise the most rigid economy.

It has occurred to us that, a considerable improvement to the financial basis of farms in general could be achieved if it were possible to market surplus stock in the form of frozen mutton.

At present a certain number of farms (the stock Inspector should have definite details) have to destroy quantities of sheep in the autumn because they are getting beyond the age limit for breeding and for the growing of wool. Yet these sheep would have a definite value if they could be frozen and stored and then shipped abroad.

From the report issued by Messrs Gibson Brothers of Buenos Aires, for the month of February 1931, which is attached, sheep sold in the Buenos Aires market at the close of February last averaged \$9.95 Argentine paper dollars per head, and with exchange at 37-5/16d. this would represent 16/3d. per head in British sterling.

Even if only half this figure were to be obtained by local farmers for their autumn surplus stock, and assuming a surplus of only 20.000 sheep suitable for freezing, a supplementary income of at least £8.000.- per annum could be obtained by farmers -- sufficient in many instances to make all the difference between a profit and a loss on the year's work.

We have gone to the trouble of obtaining estimates from a reliable firm of Engineers, Messrs Christiani & Neilsen, to cover the erection of a small freezing plant - and their rough estimates and definite plans are attached.

They estimate the cost at about £5.190.-- exclusive of site and foundations and exclusive of abattoir. (For the abattoir we have separate estimates and plans from an English firm which for the present we are reserving).

We therefore estimate that with a capital expenditure of not more than £10.000.- it should be possible to erect in Stanley a suitable abattoir and freezing works and that if such a scheme were put into operation a supplementary income of not less than £8.000.- per annum could be gained by farmers

II.

and this gain would be of immense service in relieving the situation all round, while for the future, when values have found their definite new levels, such a small freezing establishment would possibly open up a new era of prosperity for the town of Stanley -- a town that has lost so much in local industry since the passing of the days of sailing ships, many of which used to call here for repairs and provide the Colony with a secondary industry and which so far has never been replaced.

While none of the farms that would benefit from the establishment of a freezing works are as yet in an embarrassed situation financially, it is a well known fact that there are no Banks or similar independent Institutions of credit operating in Stanley, so that there are no means of farmers obtaining loans locally with which to provide cash capital with which to finance the erection of a freezer, and as this would be a measure that would benefit the Colony as a whole, (both the owners and labourers), the first question to be settled, before any definite scheme can be launched, is whether the Colonial Government will be prepared to take a substantial financial interest in such a concern ?.

No definite details can be outlined yet as to the form of company or association that might be formed for working the freezer, but roughly perhaps something after the following could be framed:-

A Co-operative company with the status of a limited liability company.

Government to provide about \$5,000 cash to be guaranteed by first mortgage on the land and buildings, - the Government participation could take the form of Debentures with interest at 4% p.a., but with the option to sell the Debentures in small denominations to the public at any time, the Debentures to rank for 5% interest from the moment they are the property of private individuals.

\$2,500.-- Ordinary share capital to be found by farmers, who, according to the strength of their holding, would be entitled to certain priority of treatment in the matter of delivering ~~selling~~ sheep to the freezer.

\$2,500.-- in Preference shares bearing interest at 6% p.a. (non-cumulative) to be offered to the general public.

The Board of Directors to be elected by the Ordinary shareholders, to sit with a representative of the Preference shareholders and with such representatives as the Government might nominate in view of their Debenture holding.

The Ordinary shares would not have any dividends, the value of the Ordinary shares being in the right of the farmer-shareholder to nominate so many sheep for slaughter, in proportion to the number of shares held - the company would not buy any sheep either, but slaughter and market them for farmer-shareholders on a co-operative basis. All sheep, delivered for slaughter would be pooled after weighing, and after marketing each farmer would be paid so much per lb. for the dead weights recorded against his consignments of stock, in accordance with the average price realised for the season, less a percentage to be determined for reserve funds and

III

future development.

Any stock slaughtered and marketed for non-associate farmers, would be subject to a special charge of so much per head, and so much lb. dead weight marketed, to be fixed from season to season by the Board of Directors, such charges to go to reserve funds or funds for future developments.

Any stock slaughtered and marketed for a farmer-shareholder in excess of the proportion his shares may entitle him to nominate, would also be subject to special charges for the benefit of the same funds.

At the commencement of each season a minimum price per head of dead sheep "passed at the weighing machine" would be fixed by the Board of Directors -- a small figure but sufficient to induce associates to go to the expense of droving etc. Only in the event of this minimum price not being realised from the market returns would be Preference shares be liable to have to accept a lower rate than 6% as dividend for the year.

We wish to emphasize the following figures:-
In the month of February this year 16/4d. per head was being realised for mutton carcasses in the Buenos Aires market, most of the sheep being slaughtered for export as frozen mutton.

In this rough outline we have calculated that 8/- per head (half the Buenos Aires value) would provide the local farmers with a very useful supplementary income.

We know that this autumn some farmers have had fat sheep that they would have been willing to sell outright for 4/- per head on the hoof. Instead they have had to destroy them and merely retrieve the pelts, and the value of the pelts is very little.

A 5% p.a. Debenture interest on £5,000 would only absorb £250.-

A 6% p.a. Preference dividend on £2,500 would only mean £150.-

Assuming a slaughter of 20,000 sheep at an interest cost of £400.- per annum for capital installations, this would mean less than 4d. per head slaughtered.

We have not gone into the matter of working costs, depreciation, general overhead etc., but there is a big margin between the 4/- per head which farmers are willing at times to sell sheep at, and the price of 16/4d. per head realised by the sale of sheep in Buenos Aires, so that on the very face of it there is a very satisfactory margin to work upon.

Yet again, assuming an average dead weight of 45 lbs. per carcass, and an average wholesale price for mutton in England of 10d. per lb. it means that sheep that cannot at present be sold in the Falkland Islands at 4/- per head, could be sold in England at 37/6 each as mutton, if frozen and transported there ?.

We know that neither His Excellency the Governor, nor either of the local Councils, can decide definitely whether local Colonial Funds can be diverted in the manner outlined, but that, subject to certain recommendations, it rests with the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies to give the necessary permission for Colonial Funds to be employed in the manner suggested.

①

IV.

We attach very great importance to this project. The question of a local freezer has been mooted many times, but nothing has ever come to a head because wool prices being relatively high, there was little incentive to look for supplementary income, especially as the pelts from all surplus sheep that were destroyed also brought in a considerable sum of money.

But today the price of wool, and pelts, is very low, having fallen much more than the price of meat, and we consider the situation is propitious for the launching of a scheme as herein outlined, wherein Government and farmers can co-operative in the interests of the only industry that the Islands possess - such co-operative action being for the general good and in point of number of population affected, or likely to be affected, consulting very much the interests of the working classes.

There is a homeward mail scheduled to leave about 10th May proximo, and we suggest that this matter be consulted with the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies by that mail, and we feel sure that His Excellency the Governor, and both Councils, (if it is considered advisable to consult them), if they have the interests of the Colony truly at heart, will press for a free hand to launch such a scheme, with the object of having a freezer working here by February 1932.

The attached folder contains the following papers:-

- Capacity of
plant.
150 boxes
at 5000 mutton*
1. Letter dated Buenos Aires March 31st 1931, from Messrs Christiani & Neilsen -- known all over the world as engineer constructors of freezing works.
 2. Description of proposed freezing works.
 3. Messrs Gibson Brothers market report for Buenos Aires February 1931.
 4. Illustrations of Ammonia-Compressor.
 5. Booklet issued by Messrs Christiani & Neilsen on the subject of their special insulating concrete "Cell concrete".
 6. Illustration of Carbonic-Acid Compressor.
 7. Illustrations and testimonials regarding work done.
 8. Graphs of "Cell concrete" stresses etc.
 9. Complete plans of proposed building etc.

We should like to have same returned to us as soon as possible, as we shall need them to exhibit to other friends who we intend interesting in this matter.

We are also communicating with the Blue Star Line, for which we are local agents, to find out under what conditions they will be prepared to send a refrigerated steamer here at intervals during the season to lift the frozen carcasses. (We know that they are interested and we know that they already send their ships to load mutton at Patagonian ports).

We await your kind advices in this connection and remain,

The Colonial Secretary
Stanley
Falkland Islands.

Yours faithfully,
p.p. Estate Louis Williams.

L. Williams

121/51.

28th April,

31.

Sir,

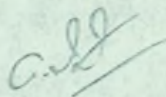
I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th of April, 1931, on the subject of the proposed construction of a freezing plant in the Falkland Islands, and to inform you that the matter is receiving consideration.

2. I am to add that it is hoped to address a further communication to you at an early date.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



for Colonial Secretary.

The Manager,
Estate Louis Williams,
STANLEY.

121/31.

4th May,

31.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 121/31 of the 28th of April, 1931, relative to the proposed construction locally of a freezing plant, I am directed to inform you that in view of the early arrival in the Colony of Governor Sir James O'Grady the Acting Governor does not feel that it is competent for him to proceed to the immediate steps in this matter which you have suggested.

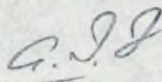
2. I am to add that a convenient opportunity will be taken of submitting the proposals to His Excellency shortly after arrival.

3. I am to return, as requested, the folder enclosed in your letter of the 25th of April, 1931.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



for Colonial Secretary.

The Manager,
The Estate Louis Williams,
STANLEY.

121/31.

14th May,

31.

Sir,

I am directed to forward to you the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Manager of the Estate Louis Williams, Stanley, on the proposed establishment of a freezing-plant to conduct a trade in the export of mutton carcasses, and to request that you will be good enough at your convenience to furnish me with any observations which may usefully occur to you in this connection.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. J. J.

for Colonial Secretary.

Hon. L.W.H. Young, M.L.C.,
Manager,
Falkland Islands Company, Ltd.
STANLEY.

121/31.

14th May,

31.

Sir,

I am directed to forward to you the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Manager of the Estate Louis Williams, Stanley, on the proposed establishment of a freezing-plant to conduct a trade in the export of mutton carcasses, and to request that you will be good enough at your convenience to furnish me with any observations which may usefully occur to you in this connection.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. J. J.
For Colonial Secretary.

Hon. G. J. Felton, M.L.C.,
Manager,
Teal Inlet,
East Falkland.

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENT FOR LLOYDS.

AGENTS FOR
THE PACIFIC STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

TELEGRAMS: FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY VIA RADIO.



Stanley

22nd May, 1931.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 121/31 dated 14th May relative to a project for the establishment of Freezing Works in Stanley put forward by Mr E.G. Rowe of Estate Louis Williams.

Mr Rowe deserves thanks for the interest he has shown in this matter but whilst his proposals are not sufficiently advanced to warrant detailed criticism, several statements made by him are open to question.

It may be noted that his proposals deal with the surplus sheep of the present flocks, i.e. sheep whose wool is the primary object; presumably he does not advocate sheep grown chiefly for mutton—a matter of the greatest importance and which would require most careful consideration by the Farmers of this Colony.

In the first place it must not be assumed that all sheep destroyed on account of age would be suitable for freezing and export - apart from mutton sheep about 33,500 sheep are slaughtered in the Colony yearly. There are no means of estimating what proportion of these would be fit for freezing but the general opinion appears to be that 10,000 would, if anything, be a high estimate. The project then turns on the stock available and if Government would issue a questionnaire to Farmers relating to the number of sheep (minimum weight 45 lbs; average 50 lbs.) which each estimates he would have available for freezing each year, together with any general expression of views on the subject he may desire to make, it would then be possible to assess the practicability of this project so far as the stock is concerned.

Given sufficient stock for freezing other considerations such as transport of sheep to the freezing works, the works, transport to the United Kingdom and marketing present no insuperable difficulties providing the necessary capital can be raised.

Two important considerations would be -
SITE OF FREEZER should be on the East Falkland Island on the Falkland Sound which would be most convenient for driving East Falkland sheep and for shipping sheep to the freezer from West Falkland.

REFRIGERATED STORAGE would have to be provided sufficient for the maximum number of sheep expected for freezing otherwise the failure of a steamer to lift mutton by a certain date might entail both Farmers and works in a serious loss.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary.

Stanley.

(9)

Mr Rowe quotes certain prices realised for sheep in Buenos Aires in February last which were equivalent to 16/3d per head Sterling, assumes an average dead weight of 45 lbs. per carcass, an average wholesale price for mutton in England of 10d per lb and deduces from this that sheep which cannot at present be sold in the Falkland Islands at 4/- per head could be sold in England at 37/6 each as mutton if frozen and transported there.

Smithfield Meat Market Official Report for 11th March last quotes - MUTTON.

Argentine wethers	1/10 to 2/4	per 8-lbs.	Average per lb	3.1/3d.
ewes	1/6 to 1/10	" " " "	" "	2 1/2d.
lambs	2/8 to 3/4	" " " "	" "	4 1/2d.

out of which freezing, storing, shipping, transport, landing, and brokerage charges have to be paid.

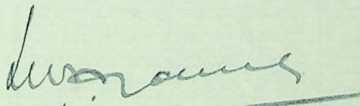
There is a difference between these several prices which requires explanation.

The relative papers are not here but it is within my knowledge that the question of freezing was gone into by my Board in consultation with one of the most important firms in South America and England interested in this business in its three main aspects, i.e. as Owners and Managers of freezing works, refrigerated steamers and with a marketing organisation, some years ago. I understand they came to the conclusion that the scheme was impracticable, one reason being that the minimum quantity of sheep required for the economic working of a Freezer being given as 50 - 70,000 by the Firm referred to.

I am,

Sir,

your obedient servant,



Manager.

121/31.

27th May,

31

Sir,

I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd of May, 1931, on the subject of the projected establishment of a freezing works in the Colony, and to convey to you the expression of His Excellency's thanks for the evident trouble to which you have been in examining the matter.

2. I am to add that a further communication will be addressed to you in this connection at a later date.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. I. I.

for Colonial Secretary.

Hon. L.W.H. Young., M.L.C.,
Manager,
Falkland Islands Company, Ltd.,
STANLEY.

Substantial Reductions

12

The Times
25-3-31

in the Prices of

FRESH MEAT

AT

J. SAINSBURY'S

Choicest
English and Scotch

MUTTON

PER LB.

LEGS - - 1 1/2

SHOULDERS - 1 1/1

LOINS and
SADDLES - - 1 1/2

Finest
Canterbury, N.Z.

MUTTON

PER LB.

LEGS - - 8^D.

SHOULDERS - 7^D.

LOINS and
SADDLES - - 6^D.

★Devon and
Somerset

LAMB

PER LB.

LEGS - - 1 1/8

SHOULDERS - 1 1/6

LOINS and
SADDLES - - 1 1/8

Delicious
Canterbury, N.Z.

LAMB

PER LB.

LEGS - - 1 1/4

SHOULDERS - 11^D.

LOINS and
SADDLES - - 10^D.

NO FINER QUALITY OBTAINABLE
AT ANY PRICE.

J. SAINSBURY

★ Limited quantities only at present.

which broke out early yesterday morning at a Taunton nursing home. (p. 11)

In connexion with the recent retirement scheme for lieutenant-commanders, the Admiralty have made an announcement giving the prospects of promotion for naval officers in the future. (p. 19)

Agreement on the wages and hours of railway shopmen was reached yesterday by the National Council, the wage reduction amounting to 10d. in the £ of present earnings. (p. 8)

A statement, submitted by the cotton spinners' and manufacturers' organizations to the Government, describes the very serious effects on the Lancashire cotton industry of the boycott of British goods in India. (p. 7)

A test case regarding the rating of flats in London was heard at the County of London Quarter Sessions yesterday. (p. 9)

POLITICS

In the House of Lords yesterday the Duke of Marlborough opened a discussion on the situation in India. Lord Peel, Lord Reading, Lord Lloyd, and the Lord Chancellor were among the speakers. (p. 7)

In the House of Commons naval subjects were discussed on the report of the Votes passed in Committee of Supply. At question-time the Prime Minister stated that it was the intention of the Government to proceed with the Representation of the People Bill after Easter. (p. 7)

Mr. Baldwin was entertained at dinner last night at the Constitutional Club by the United Club. Replying to the toast of his health, he paid a warm tribute to the memory of Sir Laning Worthington-Evans, the late member for St. George's, Hanover-square. (p. 9)

Polling takes place to-day in the St. George's Division of Westminster. The result will be declared at the Caxton Hall—probably shortly before midnight. (pp. 15 and 16)

Polling will take place to-day in the Pontypridd Division of Glamorgan, and the result will be declared to-morrow afternoon. The campaign has ended in personal issues, which were first raised some days ago by Sir Rhys Williams's report of a statement made by Captain Crawshaw at an interview. (p. 8)

Sir Archibald Sinclair refused yesterday to withdraw his resignation of the office of Chief Liberal Whip. The Parliamentary Liberal Party will meet on Tuesday to decide its future policy in relation to the Government. (p. 14)

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN

The Chamber of Princes did not discuss at its meeting in Delhi yesterday the proposals of the Round-Table Conference. Our Special Correspondent in India says one effect of the postponement of the discussion has been to start rumours of the Princes' reluctance to endorse their representatives' attitude in London. (p. 14)

A scheme has been agreed on by Mr. Gandhi and Bombay millowners for the disposal in countries other than India of the stocks of foreign cloth held by merchants. Mr. Gandhi also received in Bombay a deputation of Indian business men, who urged the need for discrimination between Indian and British trades and industries. (p. 14)

The Spanish Cabinet, on learning that the Court-martial at Jaca had sentenced Captain Sediles to death, telephoned to King Alfonso asking that the sentence might be commuted. His Majesty replied that he would sign a reprieve as soon as it was submitted to him. (p. 14)

The split in the Australian Federal Labour Party has been widened by the exclusion from the Caucus of two of the seven Labour Senators. The House of Representatives yesterday debated the Government's Bill, complementary to the Fiduciary Notes Bill, for the relief of farmers. (p. 14)

COURT AND PERSONAL

The Queen yesterday visited Peckham and opened the Stafford-street Settlement, the new headquarters of the Union of Girls' Schools for Social Service. (p. 11)

nappen in the future, the Conference itself has had an impr perhaps a permanent, value beyond expectations of those who conv three parties in England joined in t to the Round Table. The preser three took part in it. Nearly ever the Conference expressed his o afterwards. Not one of them immense achievement—not indee a Constitution for India, which v business, but in dispelling illusions confidence, and sketching the so which it might be possible to fill ment for the consideration of Parliament. "I do not think," sai HOARE, who is not given to enth statement, "that we can exaggerat "which members of the Conferer "by this day-to-day concentrat "difficult and complicated prob "relations of India and Great Br

That policy of "concentrat "problem," in close cooperation tive minds in the other parties was till lately, and is now more accepted policy of the Conservat SIR SAMUEL HOARE was speaking the Conference. There has bee when it seemed for a moment to A combination of motives, many remotely connected with India, si few days in producing a hubbub i was a risk that the solution of problem of the British Empire wa to the chances of our domestic p No one doubts that there is sincere body of opinion, to be f most part in the Conservative honestly resents all change as suc most part the movement wa compounded of personal anim appointed ambitions, and reckle There has seldom been a more chapter in the political histo country than the record of s hysterical writing and speaking pression of facts about India du election campaign which closes to may be added, a more gallant explain India to Pinlco than COOPER has undertaken in interests of Conservatism. Yes bate in the Lords, and Mr. simultaneous demonstration in Hall, may or may not timed to coincide with the eve of any case the real danger to Cons been averted before they took BALDWIN's steadiness under pressu the waverers in the House of Co Conservative India Committee, v chosen instrument of mischief-ma thought in shame of suspending altogether and had finally decide whelming endorsement of the at Party Leader. Altogether the at no longer favourable to the sort demagogu (stimulated by count which the Albert Hall demonst substitute for the restored and re servative policy of "carrying on "the Conference."

But a debate in the Lords is while when so great a subject, requ real knowledge and experience, sideration. The discussion yester sober, and dignified as all such should have succeeded at all even

3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; forequarters, chilled, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.; Australian, hindquarters, frozen, 2d. to 2s. 6d.; crops, frozen, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d. **24. 4. 31**

MUTTON (per 8lb.).—Scotch, 7s. to 8s. 4d.; legs, 8s. to 9s.; English, 6s. 4d. to 8s.; legs, 7s. 8d. to 8s.; ewes, 2s. to 4s.; New Zealand, wethers, 2s. 8d. to 3s. 4d.; ewes, 2s. to 2s. 4d.; Argentine wethers, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d.

PORK (per 8lb.).—English (under 10st.), 6s. 8d. to 7s. 4d.; (10st. to 15st.), 6s. to 6s. 8d.; (15st. to 20st.), 7s. 4d. to 8s. 4d.; New Zealand, 7s. 4d. to 8s. 4d.

No. 3, CAMBRIDGE-TERRACE,
REGENT'S PARK, N.W.1.

CHOICE medium-sized TOWN RESIDENCE. In quiet but very open position, and enjoying DELIGHTFUL VIEWS OF THE PARK. Eight bed and dressing rooms, three beautifully fitted bath rooms, three-four reception rooms, and tiled domestic offices. Garage for two cars with chauffeur's room.

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENT FOR LLOYDS.

AGENTS FOR
THE PACIFIC STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

TELEGRAMS 'FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY' VIA RADIO.



Stanley

12th June, 1931.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter dated 22nd ultimo re
a project for Freezing Works, I enclose two cuttings
from the Times quoting

On 24th April Argentine wethers 2/2d to 2/6d per 3 lbs.

Average per pound 3d.

On 25th March. Retail prices for finest Canterbury, N.Z.

Mutton 6d to 3d per pound.

which are of interest.

I am,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

Manager.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary.

Stanley.

121/31.

15th June,

31

Sir,

I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of and to thank you for your letter of the 12th of June, 1931, enclosing two cuttings from the "Times" relative to the prices of Argentine wethers and finest Canterbury N.Z. mutton.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. I. J.

For Colonial Secretary.

The Manager,
The Falkland Islands Company, Ltd.,
STANLEY.

121/31.

7th July.

31

Sir,

In continuation of the letter addressed to you from this office No. 121/31 of the 4th of May, 1931, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the proposals submitted by you in your letter of the 25th of April, 1931, for the establishment in the Colony of a freezing plant have received the full consideration of His Excellency in Executive Council with the following conclusions :

2. It is found on the data available as the result of past experiments with and enquiries into a similar enterprise that the minimum number of sheep required annually to feed a freezing plant for the export trade according to the information at hand is at least 50,000 as compared with the figure of 20,000 mentioned in your letter under reference. This number is not only the minimum necessary from the point of view of a sufficient turn-over for economical working but it is also essential to enable adequate arrangements for shipping to be made.

3. It is estimated after detailed examination
of/

The Manager,
Estate Louis Williams,
STANLEY.

of statistics and personal consultation with many of the farm owners and managers concerned that the maximum number of sheep suitable for freezing and available in any one year would not exceed 15,000, if, indeed, it would attain that figure. In this connection it should be realised that the greater part of the sheep destroyed by the farmers or rendered into tallow are not suitable for freezing but are culled from the flocks by reason of age or on account of their poor condition or some physical deformity.

4. The frozen meat trade is one that for natural causes is not easily to be combined with the wool trade. A carcass of standard size and weight has to be specially evolved by breeding and it is extremely doubtful whether such standardisation, on which sales are entirely dependent, can be achieved without a radical alteration in the whole system of sheep-farming in the Colony.

5. The fat lamb trade presents the most profitable aspect of the frozen meat trade but would seem, unfortunately, under actual conditions to be out of the question in the Colony in view of the nature of the pastures, which do not favour rapid fattening, and of the fact that many farms are obliged by reason of their low lambing percentages to buy sheep from other farms in order to maintain the strength of their flocks for the production of wool.

6. Having regard to the considerations already stated the amount of capital, £10,000, suggested by
you /

- 3 -

you would seem to be wholly inadequate for the establishment of such an undertaking on a scale likely to succeed. In this connection the difficulties experienced by the Falkland Islands Sealing Company, Limited, which are due in no small measure to the shortage of original capital, should not be overlooked.

7. The market price in England of 37s/6d. for a carcass of 45 lbs. envisaged by you would seem to be highly optimistic in the light of the wholesale prices ruling at the moment ; for example, at Smithfield Meat Market in London on the 11th of March, 1931, according to the official report Argentine wethers are quoted at 1s/10d. to 2s/4d. per 8 lbs. or, say, 3½d. per lb, and Argentine ewes at 1s/6d. to 1s/10d. per 8 lbs. or, say, 2½d. per lb, giving a total value for a carcass of 45 lbs. of, say, from 9s/- to 14s/- only. On the 24th of April, 1931, Argentine wethers are similarly quoted at from 2s/2d. to 2s/6d. per 8 lbs. Incidentally it is observed that on the 25th of March, 1931, finest Canterbury, New Zealand, mutton was on retail sale in Messrs. J. Sainsbury's shops at from 6d. to 8d. per lb.

8. I am to say, therefore, that while the Governor regards with every sympathy this, or any, proposal for the development of trade or industry in the Colony His Excellency considers that the present proposal is not yet sufficiently elaborated to warrant an undertaking to give material support

to/

- 4 -

to it from the public revenues.

9. I am to say at the same time that I shall be glad to receive any comments which you may wish to offer on the conclusions expressed in this letter and cordially to invite for consideration any further proposals or suggestions which you may have to put forward in this connection.

10. I am to add that I shall be happy to learn the outcome of the enquiries which you intended initiating with those likely to be interested in the matter, and in particular to know what promises of financial support you have obtained from farm owners or managers in the Colony and what proposition in regard to shipping facilities has been made by the Blue Star Line in response to your projected communication.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Colonial Secretary.